Listing of Claims

The claims pending in the subject-application as of this Amendment are as follows:

Claims 1-12 are canceled.

13.   (Previously Presented) An electronic device of the type which alerts a user to an incoming message by connecting an alert signal to a preselected one of first and second alert devices, comprising:

  a)   a detector which monitors the incoming message to detect the presence of a squelch signal broadcast locally by an emitter and generates a control signal at its output when the squelch signal is detected;

  b)   a processor operatively connected to the output of the detector;

  c)   an alert-mode memory-cell storing one of a default binary value and a user-set binary value;

  d)   a buffer memory connected to the processor and configured to store a predetermined one of two binary values therein in response to the control signal when the squelch signal is detected and also configured to store the contents of the alert-mode memory-cell in the absence of detection of the squelch signal;

  e)   a switch, operatively connected to the processor, to automatically direct the alert signal to a predetermined one of the first and second alert devices while the squelch signal is being detected as a function of the binary value stored in the buffer memory.

Claims 14-21 are canceled.

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22.   (Previously Presented) The electronic device of claim 13, further comprising a circuit configured to populate the buffer memory with the contents of the alert-mode memory-cell when the broadcast squelch signal ceases being detected.

23.   (Previously Presented) The electronic device of claim 13, further comprising a software program which executes in the processor so as to populate the buffer memory with the contents of the alert-mode memory-cell when the broadcast squelch signal ceases being detected.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the buffer memory is configured to store only one bit.

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